

Lamoine Conservation Commission-May

Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2014

Members Present: Larry Libby, Chair; Carol Korty, David Legere, Anne LaBossiere and Doug Stewart

Alternate Present: Linda Penkalski

Absent Alternate: Nancy Pochan

Others in Attendance: Jane Fowler

Meeting was convened at Lamoine School by Chm. Libby at 7:00 p.m.

Topics Discussed:

Concerns from Select Board or Planning Board: Larry Libby attended the April 24th meeting of the Select Board to provide information re: the project proposal that we are preparing to submit to the City of Ellsworth on behalf of the Town of Lamoine. This project proposal is related to the Natural Resources Damage Compensation Plan for the Portland-Bangor Waste Site in Ellsworth, Maine. The title of the project is **SAFEGUARDING THE QUALITY OF LAMOINE'S SOLE-SOURCE WATERSUPPLY: THE GROUNDWATER OF ITS SAND AND GRAVEL AQUIFER**. The board raised two questions that Larry answered.

- 1.) How did we plan to gain access to people's land for drilling test wells where needed and collecting samples? Larry said we would always seek their permission.
- 2.) What happens to the project at the end of two years? Larry said LCC is considering ways to continue data collection beyond the initial two years of the project.

Highlights of GIS (Geographic Information System) Workshop, Suggestions for LCC: David Legere attended this workshop. He said that basically GIS gives you a

map that data can be added to in a layering method. For the water quality project, we could start with a satellite image of the Town of Lamoine, and then overlay our aquifer, gravel pits, sites where water samples have been obtained through the GET WET! project and proposed test wells. Thus the location of any water quality problems could be determined. Legere mentioned that it might be possible to utilize COA students under the direction of a faculty member to assist in this GIS analysis.

Gravel Ordinance Work Group: David Legere, LCC's representative to this group, described some of what the group has been discussing. He suggested that it would be useful for LCC to provide him with some feedback in the areas of setbacks, monitoring wells, permit applications and buffer zones. Carol Korty suggested that we individually read the minutes of the Gravel Ordinance Work Group's meetings and communicate via e-mail with one another re: our responses. Stu Marckoon would receive copies of all these e-mails between LCC members. If there's a need for a face to face meeting to provide David with additional input, we could consider doing so. As we understand it, the Gravel Ordinance Work Group's purpose is to provide to the Select Board the pros and cons of various ways to mitigate the four issue areas noted above. David described the assessed value per acre of land being mined. Jane Fowler provided clarity on the tax rate for land not currently having gravel taken from it. For more specific information on tax rates in Lamoine, please contact Jane in her capacity as chair of the board of assessors for the Town of Lamoine.

Status of Water Quality Proposal to Ellsworth: LCC members reviewed the third draft of the project proposal prior to attending this meeting. Larry Libby recommended that we needed to develop clear objectives for the proposed project. We came up with these four:

- 1.) To define what we know now about the town's water quality. We will assemble the information from various sources, including GET WET!, volunteered quality information from residents and previous analysis.
- 2.) To systematically gather new water quality data to clarify any problems in the groundwater under the sand and gravel aquifer not revealed in baseline data

from past sample collections.

3.) To inform town residents about the results of the analysis. If there are water quality problems in some areas, suggest steps that individuals or businesses could take to mitigate or resolve these problems.

4.) To establish a longer term data system for tracking water quality. This may require seeking additional funding. We are confident that future volunteers on the Conservation Commission or other town residents will continue data collection if requested. Analysis of any additional data will likely require added funding and the Commission will seek those funds as needed.

Update on Simon Woods Trail Project: We have received informal notice that our application will be partially funded. The town has to sign an agreement with the grantors before work on this may commence.

Recycling-What Role for LCC: Doug Stewart attended a state workshop on recycling, representing the Commission. He shared information obtained from a couple of the sessions. These included *Single Stream Operations in Maine* and *User Fee Systems*. Doug suggested that Lamoine could do more to encourage recycling. Perhaps additional information about the relative cost and revenues of our present system and other technologies might be helpful. Doug also feels it would be beneficial to check out what other towns are doing with their waste treatment and recycling.

Other

Procedures for access to LCC archives: To be discussed at the June Meeting.

Shore clean-up: More discussion on this will take place at our June meeting. Larry Libby was recently contacted by Phyllis Mobraaten who expressed concern about the Lamoine shoreline in terms of shore erosion and debris. She has offered to help with any shoreline clean-up effort that LCC may sponsor.

Possible public meeting on impacts of pesticides and fertilizers applied to lawns, farms and gardens in Lamoine: To be discussed at the June meeting.

David Legere shared information about upcoming events and workshops in the area that are related to coastal clean-up and a workshop re: Wilderness First Aid Afloat. More specifics may be found on the online bulletin board of Frenchman Bay Partners. He encouraged Commission members to attend these events, when possible, to gather relevant information and to network with others interested in conservation issues.

Larry Libby mentioned that Kathy Gaiaquest had contacted him to see if LCC might contact Stu Marckoon to encourage the consideration of using a heat pump as a part of the new heating system for the town hall.

Motions and Outcomes:

The [minutes of the April 9th](#) meeting were approved.

Follow-up Actions and Who Will Do Them:

1. Larry will talk to Tom Sidar of Frenchman Bay Conservancy about our receiving some materials to do some bridging on the Simon Woods Trail once the receipt of our grant becomes official.
2. David Legere will connect with groups and individuals re: LCC participating in/organizing a shore clean-up for our area.
3. Doug Stewart will get info from Stu Marckoon re: the cost of recycling and waste disposal at the Lamoine Transfer Station.
4. Doug Stewart will also check with area towns to see what they are doing in the area of waste disposal and recycling and report back to us.
5. Larry will send an e-mail to Stu Marckoon suggesting that the town also consider the use of heat pumps in the new heating system to be installed in town hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Anne LaBossiere, secretary, and approved on_____.